244. [*Transferred to the 28th February, 1991*]

Number of persons in custody

245. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people taken into custody in the States nuder the President's rule during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of those who were subsequently released from custody and those still under custody; and

(c) by when Government propose to release all such people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Deployment of Army on Indo-Pak Borders

246. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether army have been deployed on the borders between India and Pakistan in certain sensitive districts, to prevent infiltrations and terrorist elements; and

(b) if so, results achieved so far in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Army Units are carrying out their usual training exercises in areas close to the international border with Pakistan, in certain sectors. While discouraging infiltration/exfiltration, the presence of the Army has helped to instil confidence among the local population.

Asiasat Channel and Cable News Network

247. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government could not acquire a channel in the ASIASAT which was bagged by a Bombay businessman;

(b) whether an independent TV centre is being set up at Male with a view to beaming TV telecasts to India through ASIASAT;

(c) whether it is a fact that cable News Network pictures and voice casts are being received freely in many cities and places in India; and

(d) whether Government propose to amend broadcasting laws in view of the rapid growth of globalisation of telecasting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No, Sir. In fact ASIASAT has indicated that it will be able to lease out two to three transponders to India.

(b) The Government is not aware of any such centre being established at Male.

(c) The CNN signal, being transmitted through the INTERSPUTNIK Satellite over Indian Ocean Region, is also available throughout India. The Government is aware of reception of CNN signal through indigenously available C-Band Dish Antennae in various parts of the country.

(d)) The matter concerning establishment of Dish-Antennae does not come under the term "Broadcasting" as contemplated in Schedule VII, List I of the Constitution. However, in accordance with the existing instructions a private individual can set up a Dish-Antenna for